

## NOTES AND NEWS.

*SPIRÆA MILLEFOLIUM* Torr. is figured in *Garden and Forest*, Oct. 23.

IN THE *Jour. Trenton Nat. Hist. Soc.* (Jan., 1889), Dr. Alfred C. Stokes publishes keys to the genera of Compositæ, the species of *Solidago*, and the species of *Aster*, as described in Gray's Synoptical Flora.

MR. J. M. MACOUN, in *Garden and Forest* (October 23), gives an interesting account of *Vaccinium Vitis-Idæa* in its far northern haunts. There the berry is firm and juicy and very useful to man and the larger migratory birds.

LYDIA W. SHATTUCK, for over forty years teacher of botany in Mt. Holyoke Seminary, died recently at an advanced age. She was known by correspondence to many of the older botanists whose names are prominently associated with American botany.

IN THE *Kew Bulletin* for November are printed directions for collecting and preserving fleshy fungi. Dr. M. C. Cooke writes chiefly concerning such forms as the fleshy Agarics, Baleti, etc. Dr. G. Masee deals principally with the Gasteromycetes. There seems to be more danger of destroying characters by attempting too much care than from lack of it.

PROFESSOR JOHN MACOUN calls attention (*Garden and Forest*, Oct. 30) to the fine forests of Vancouver's Island, saying that they are "without exception the finest now in Canada." It seems that they are being rapidly devastated by fires started by men who are "improving" the land. It is a good opportunity for the Canadian government to enact some wise forestry laws.

COLORLESS PREPARATIONS of plants which usually turn a dark brown on being put into alcohol may be prepared, according to de Vries, by mixing with the alcohol two per cent. of acid, such as hydrochloric. It does not interfere with the microscopic investigation of such specimens, as the acid allows the alcohol to harden the cell walls and contents as usual. Several changes of alcohol may be necessary to remove all color.

DR. T. J. W. BURGESS has published a paper, read before the biological section of the Hamilton (Canada) Association, upon "the Lake Erie shore as a botanizing ground." Giving a general account of the collectors who have visited that region and its botanical peculiarities, he gives a list of 22 lost or doubtful species, and urges upon the members of the Association that they be hunted up. A list of 108 species is also given, that are restricted in Canada to the "Lake Erie District," and another list of 26 Canadian species almost restricted to the same region.

C. F. WHEELER, of Hubbardston, Michigan, has been appointed assistant in the botanical department of the Experiment Station at the Michigan Agricultural College, in place of Eugene Davenport, who has been elected Professor of Agriculture in the same institution. Mr. Wheeler will also do excellent service in other ways, by aiding to enlarge the botanical garden, museum, and herbarium. His valuable herbarium, especially rich in Michigan plants, will become the property of the college. He will spend the winter in study at the Agricultural College, and begin his duties about the last of next February.

<sup>1</sup> Berichte d. deutschen bot. Gesells. vii. 1889. 298.